

**CHARGES DANIELS
MISSTATED FACTS****Decker Says Secretary Tried to
Injure Sims, Fullam
and Fiske.**

WASHINGTON, June 26.—The Sims-Daniels row over the navy's conduct of the war was revived to-day with the publication of a letter from Rear Admiral Benton C. Decker, commandant of the Seventh Naval District, Florida, in which he charges that Secretary Daniels, in his testimony before the Senate investigating committee, "intentionally and deliberately" misrepresented certain acts of Rear Admirals Sims, Fullam and Fiske.

The letter, dated June 17 and addressed to Chairman Hale of the committee, was published in the *Army and Navy Register*, a service magazine. Admiral Decker said he also had sent a copy of it to Secretary Daniels. Senator Hale is in New York.

The Admiral declared in his letter that "from my personal knowledge of Mr. Daniels' character I am led to believe that whatever is cited in his statements

to the discredit of the officers is so perverted and twisted as to give the actual facts a false meaning."

"It is probable, and more than likely," Admiral Decker's letter said, "that if these officers had bowed down and had served the gods that Mr. Daniels worshipped they would to-day have been fattening on the navy as commanders of fleets on active duty or in pleasant jobs in Washington. To me, as to other high officers of the navy, it has come that if we would bow down and do the wishes of Mr. Daniels we would receive the rewards thereof—intimations that come by circuitous routes and underhanded, sneaking ways, so that no one can take hold of them."

"My explanation of the incidents set forth by Mr. Daniels is based upon my personal experience with him. This explanation is that Mr. Daniels found these officers would not follow him to the limit of demoralizing and degrading the navy; that, even though they honestly desired the rewards and promotions of their career which all honorable men reasonably desire, they were not willing to sacrifice their character, their manhood and their country. And as a result Mr. Daniels determined to break them by the use of all the power of his high office, by the use of the power of ridicule, sarcasm and half-truths that as a newspaper man he has learned how to use so skillfully, by the use of the strength of publicity secured through his newspaper connections, all the weapons which Prussianism used to destroy its enemies, and autocracy has used through the ages to maintain its power."

"I have no desire in this letter to

bring out my personal experiences with Mr. Daniels, but he knows of them, and he knows, if he knows the difference between right and wrong, that he has been dishonest; that he has been autocratic; that he has abused his power; that he has done all this for unworthy motives."

**PRATT INSTITUTE'S
EX-CASHIER ACCUSED**

**Pleads Not Guilty to Grand
Larceny and Forgery.**

An indictment charging grand larceny and forgery was read yesterday to Edward H. Byatt, former cashier of Pratt Institute, in the Kings County Court. He was held in \$10,000 bail after pleading not guilty. Byatt told Judge May, before whom he was arraigned, that a "terrible mistake" had been made. The allegations were the result of a bit of careless bookkeeping, he said.

One of the charges states that Byatt failed to enter in the books \$117.52 received in his office. The money represented fines that accumulated in the Pratt Institute's library during January, 1920. District Attorney Lewis declared the shortages may amount to \$10,000.

Last April a new man took over Byatt's work. Byatt had done the work for seven years. The new bookkeeper, it is said, discovered irregularities that led to the indictment and arrest.

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